School Council Meeting Minutes
Date: October 4, 2024
Location: Kingsview Village Junior School (Staff Room)
Wellness Facilitators: Ms. Amato
Present: Leopold Campbell (Principal), Naima Ahmed (Vice Principal), Faduma (Chair 2023/2024) Marjorie Secretary (2023/2024), Tram Nguyen (Teacher Representative), several additional members

Agenda and Notes

1. **Welcome and Introduction**
- Speakers: Ms. Amato (Well-being), Leopold Campbell (Principal), Faduma (Chair)
- Introductions and welcoming remarks.
- Community Support Worker Update: an update was provided regarding the school's community support worker, who is available to assist students and parents with various resources. We are assigned a new support worker and hopefully we can introduce her at our next school council meeting.
- Encouraging parents to connect with school if they need any for additional support and referrals.

2. **Principal and Vice Principal Update**
- Principal provided general school updates and emphasized the importance of parent engagement.
- Highlighted the importance of building literacy skills and engaging students in critical thinking tasks.

3. **School-Wide Focus**
- Robotics: A new robotics program has been introduced (after school), aiming to engage students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education and promote innovation.
- Engage 416 TPS Community Initiative: The school is working with Toronto Police Services on the Engage 416 initiative to promote community safety and enhance communication between the school and local authorities.

4. **Teacher Report**
- Teacher Representative: Tram Nguyen
- Began by thanking parents for their support and asked parents to begin visit at the school and wear visitors badge
- New this year, beside the office, please visit our Wall of Kindness - created by Ms. Setayesh to provide a space to support our school community
- As well, the "Wall of Kindness" encourages students to participate in acts of kindness and share positive messages.
- Thank you to families for donating to our Terry Fox Run, our school raised over $300 for this important cause.
- Families are encouraged to check agendas, emails for school communications and visit the school's website often.

5. **School Council Update**

- School Council elections were discussed, with a call for nominations and membership. Parents are encouraged to self-nominate to take part in the Council for the 2024/2025 school year.
- Sign-up sheets were passed around for parents interested in joining the Council.
- Meet Dates: Council meetings will take place once a month, on Wednesdays. Everyone agreed on the following Wednesdays: Nov 20th, Dec 18th, Jan 22nd, Feb 19th, March 19th, April 16th, May 21st, and June 18th
- A request was raised to have further meetings made available online via a link, allowing remote attendance to those unable to join in person.
- Meeting time and format will be communicated to parents through emails and newsletters.
- Council elections took place

2024/2025 New Elected Parent Council Members

We would like to formally introduce the newly elected parent council members for the 2024/2025 school year.

Chair: Faduma Elmi and Zahra Abdi
Co-Chair: Yash Ramprasad
Secretary: Laila Kayieh and Aisha Beegun
Treasurer: Marjorie Joseph

The council expressed confidence in their ability to serve the school in the upcoming year.

6. **New Business**

- Parent inquiry about Tutoring Programs (Principal will connect with Con-Ed about getting Tutoring and find a teacher to facilitate program)
- Parents inquired about introducing a tutoring program at the school. Leopold mentioned that the school is exploring options for additional homework support programs.
- Further discussions will be held about potential programs that could benefit students who need extra assistance.

7. **Parent Feedback**

- Concerns were raised about the number of newcomer children arriving at the school from the nearby hotel, which has impacted class sizes and resources.
- Concerns were raised about the large kindergarten class sizes and the impact on learning and resources. Possible solutions such as bringing in additional support staff and volunteers were discussed.
- Parent concerns about the current lunch routine and the need for more supervision were acknowledged. Plans to recruit more volunteers for lunchtime were shared.
- Parent Chair rep Faduma voiced that parents can advocate to the Trustee and SOE. She reminded members that “our collective voices are powerful and can influence decisions that impact our children’s education and school community”.
- Concerns were voiced about the lack of outdoor playtime for kindergarten students.
- The Parent Council will continue to advocate for more field trips and outdoor activities for all students.